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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6559  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY  
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY  
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY  
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY  
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY  
RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY  
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 9371  
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 3115  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 4880  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2479  
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 0867  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 1226  
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 002223

SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,  
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USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;  
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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - RUSSIA AND NORTH KOREA

¶1. LEAD STORIES: Top stories on Wednesday morning included the decision made on Tuesday by Russian President Medvedev to end Russia's military operations in Georgia.

¶2. "Russia Should Completely Pull out of Georgia" The conservative Sankei editorialized (8/13): "Russian President Medvedev announced a halt to Russia's military operations in Georgia, where the two nations have been engaged in an armed conflict over South Ossetia.... We would welcome the move if Russia accepts a cease-fire as Medvedev stated and if no more civilian

casualties occur. Russia should swiftly withdraw its troops.... Whatever reasons it had, Russia began a military campaign in Georgia, a sovereign state, without the approval of the international community. This can be termed a clear act of aggression. It is natural for the international community to strongly call on Russia to end its military operations."

¶3. "Patience Needed" The liberal Tokyo Shimbun stated in an editorial (8/13): "The USG has postponed delisting North Korea as a state sponsor of terrorism. This decision is reasonable, as no concrete progress has been made on verification of North Korea's nuclear declaration.... The Bush administration has lacked foresight. Even though an agreement was reached a month

and a half ago, verification work has yet to begin, as no specific measures to verify the declaration have been put forward.... Although President Bush, whose term ends in January, appears to be hopeful about realizing a diplomatic achievement, giving in would create a fait accompli on North Korea's possession of nuclear arms.... The U.S. should not make any easy concessions but instead should come up with specific verification measures with no loopholes."

